

**Introduced by Senators Ackerman, Aanestad, Calderon, Cedillo, Cogdill, Correa, Cox, Dutton, Hollingsworth, Margett, Runner, and Wyland**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Benoit, Cook, DeVore, Emmerson, Gaines, Garrick, Horton, Huff, Jeffries, Krekorian, La Malfa, Ma, Maze, Mendoza, Parra, Sharon Runner, Smyth, Spitzer, Strickland, Torrico, and Tran)

February 22, 2007

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An act to add Section 87500.1 to the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 497, as introduced, Ackerman. Political Reform Act of 1974: conflict of interest: electronic filing of statements of economic interest.

Existing provisions of the Political Reform Act of 1974 require that certain public officers, candidates for office, and employees file statements disclosing their investments, interests in real property, and other sources of economic interests. These provisions further specify with whom the statements must be filed according to the agency or office of the officer, candidate, or employee.

This bill would allow a local filing officer to permit or to require those statements to be filed electronically in accordance with regulations to be adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission, which administers the act and requirements established by the local filing officer.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 87500.1 is added to the Government  
2 Code, to read:

3 87500.1. A local filing officer may permit or require the  
4 electronic filing of statements of economic interests required by  
5 this chapter in accordance with regulations adopted by the  
6 commission and requirements established by the local filing officer.  
7 Forms for electronic filing shall be identical to those filed  
8 nonelectronically. A statement filed electronically must include  
9 an electronic signature that is submitted under penalty of perjury  
10 and that conforms to the requirements of subdivision (b) of Section  
11 1633.11 of the Civil Code.

12 SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers  
13 the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the  
14 meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government  
15 Code.